IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):

K. OKAMOTO, et al.

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Group:

3679

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Examiner:

V. MacArthur

CLAIM FOR PRIORITY

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 February 3, 2004

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 119 and 37 CFR § 1.55, Applicants hereby claim the right of priority based on Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-274252, filed in Japan on September 20, 2002.

A certified copy of the above-identified Japanese Patent Application was submitted on March 7, 2003, in Application No. 10/358,178, filed February 5, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

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WIS/sjg